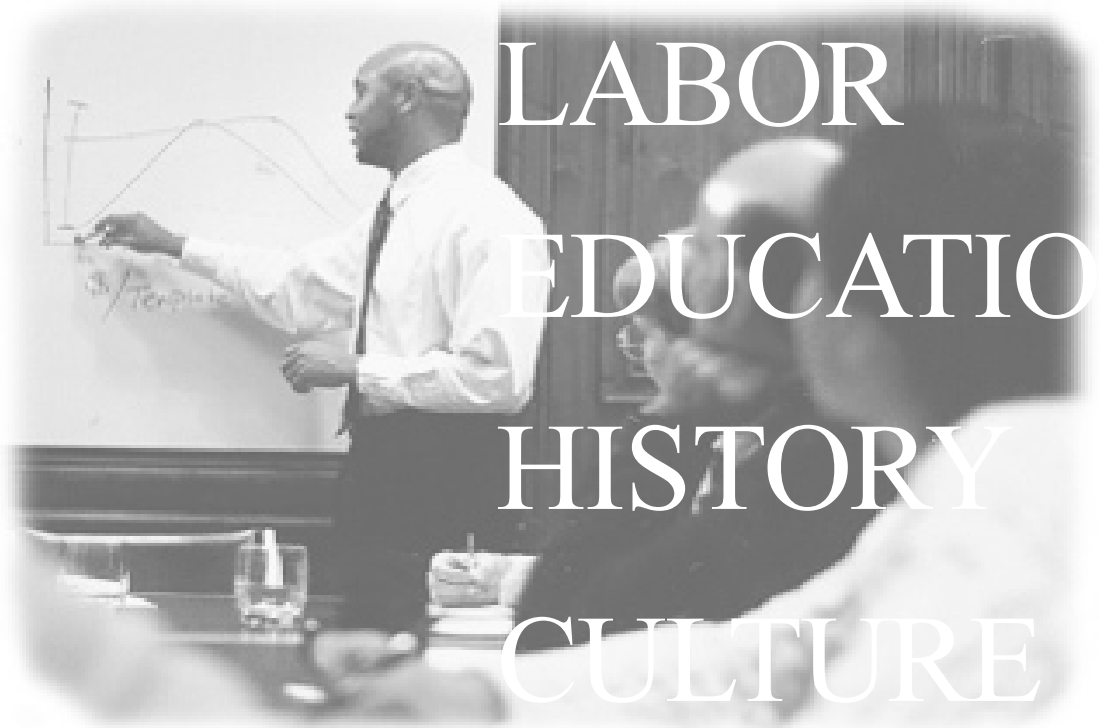




EVANGELINE



PARISH

“ ...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



Evangeline Parish

**Evangeline Parish
Tourist Commission**
P.O. Box 388
Cameron, LA 70631
318-474-6598

**Regional Office of
Public Health**
Larry Richard
Regional Administrator
Evangeline Regional
Office
Brandywine III, Ste. 100
825 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-262-5311
337-262-5237 fax

History¹

Evangeline was created on June 15, 1910. It was appropriately named after the ill-fated heroine of Longfellow's poem. While the parish itself is new, the history of its people extends over a long period of time. Evangeline, a part of the celebrated Attakapas prairie region, was settled by exiled Acadians.

Culture and Recreation³

The center of business activity in the parish, Ville Platte was first settled in the mid-19th century and was presumably named because it was situated on the flatlands just south of the rolling hills north of Alexandria. The city was incorporated in March 1858. The area offers Chicot State Park, Crooked Creek Recreation Area, and hosts the Louisiana Cotton Festival, featuring "tournoi" medieval jousting tournaments.



Parish Seat¹ Ville Platte¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

Ville Platte
1997 (estimate) 9,037

Parish Population²

1990 33,274
1997 (estimate) 34,397

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)⁶

White	72%
African American	28%
Other	0%
Male	48%
Female	52%
Population age 0-4	8%
Population age 65 & over	14%

Geography and Statistics²

Average elevation 75 ft.
Land area in square miles 664.3
Water area in square miles⁴ 15.3

Climate²

Average temperatures



Annual	68°
January	53°
July	83°
Annual average rainfall	71.2 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	11,840
Employed	10,890
Unemployed	950
Unemployment:	8.0%

Agriculture¹

Rice, soybeans, beef cattle, sweet potatoes, cotton, dairy farming, forestry, corn, grain, vegetable farming, swine, hay, and catfish and crawfish farming.

Colleges/Universities²

(within one hour commute)

Louisiana College, Pineville

Louisiana State University, Alexandria

Louisiana State University, Eunice

University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette

Public Libraries⁵ 5

References

- ¹ Louisiana Almanac. 1997. Louisiana Almanac, Pelican Press. Gretna, LA
- ² Louisiana Department of Economic Development. 1999. Louisiana Overview. keyword: overview <http://lled.state.la.us>
- ³ Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- ⁴ Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- ⁵ State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>
- ⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
- ⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	11.7%
High school graduate or higher	48.2%
Some college or higher	20.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8.3%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²

Private Employers

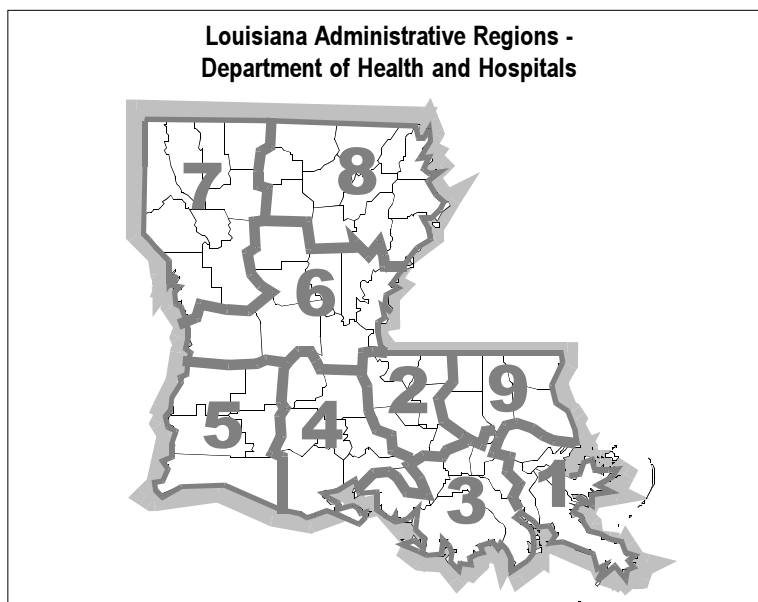
Savoy Medical Center (Medical)	550
Cooper Oil Tool (Oil/tool products)	460
Ville Platte Medical Center (Medical)	250

Public Employers

Evangeline Parish School Board (Education)	930
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Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	29.5%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	40.6%
Per capita income (1996) ⁸	\$14,528

**Region 1**

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermilion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon
Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington